

Fire Investigation 1B

Activity 2-3-1: Scene Documentation

Scene Documentation

Activity 2-3-1

Format: Individual

Time Frame: 4:00

Description

This activity provides students with an opportunity using a simulated fire scene to photograph evidentiary items, prepare a photo log for each item, diagram the scene, and construct investigative notes.

Materials

- Simulated fire scene(s)
- Evidentiary items
- Tools and equipment
- Device capable of taking photographs (i.e., tablet or cell phone)
- Graph paper
- Photo log
- Note pad

Instructions

1. Photograph three (3) evidentiary items (overall, midrange, and close-up for each item).
2. Prepare a photo log for all photographs.
3. Using graph paper, diagram the fire scene.
4. Construct investigative notes.
5. Submit your documents to the instructor (hard copy or electronic).

Instructor Notes

1. Divide students into groups.
2. Assign each group to a simulated fire scene.
3. Provide a minimum of three (3) evidentiary items at each scene.
4. Review each student's documents for the following:
 - Photographs accurately document and support scene findings
 - Photo log completed
 - Diagram identifies evidence, pertinent contents, significant patterns, and area(s) or point(s) of origin
 - Investigative notes provide accurate documentation of the scene and represent complete scene findings

Fire Investigation 1B

Activity 3-5-1: Fire Investigation Report

Fire Investigation Report

Activity 3-5-1

Format: Individual

Time Frame: In-class: 2:00 for starting the activity
Any remaining work to be completed by the student as homework
In-class: 4:00 for discussion of completed reports

Description

This activity provides students with an opportunity to prepare a fire investigation report for a criminal case.

Materials

- Blank face sheet for a fire investigation report
- Case file that, at a minimum, includes:
 - Witness statements (written, audio, or video)
 - Scene photographs with photo log
 - Evidence log
 - Sketches and diagrams
 - Investigative notes
 - Dispatch log
- Tablet or laptop computer

Instructions

1. Review the case file.
2. Create a complete fire investigation report for a District Attorney that, at a minimum, includes:
 - Summary of events
 - Notification and response/chronology of events
 - Property description
 - Scene observations
 - Witness statements
 - Opinions and conclusions
 - All appropriate attachments

Instructor Notes

1. This is a criminal room-and-content sized fire investigation.
2. Provide a case file to each student.
3. Using a model fire investigation report for the case, ask students to discuss how they handled various components of the report.